

## Pros and Cons of Open Space Uses<sup>1</sup>

Natural		
Use	Pros	Cons
Grass	<input type="checkbox"/> Prevents erosion	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires maintenance
Prairie grass	<input type="checkbox"/> Restores native habitats <input type="checkbox"/> Is aesthetically pleasing <input type="checkbox"/> Requires minimal maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires periodic controlled burns
Wildflowers	<input type="checkbox"/> Are attractive <input type="checkbox"/> Require minimal maintenance	
Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce flood peaks <input type="checkbox"/> Improve water quality <input type="checkbox"/> Provide fish and wildlife habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Provide educational opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce erosion	<input type="checkbox"/> Require classification
Wildlife refuge	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides educational opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promotes tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> Located near human population
Arboretum	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides educational opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Provides fish and wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires development and maintenance

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from “Open Space Planning: Possibilities for Properties Acquired through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.” Brochure developed by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, June 1996.

## Pros and Cons of Open Space Uses

Recreational		
Use	Pros	Cons
Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides recreational opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires development and maintenance
Athletic fields	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide recreational opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote physical fitness	<input type="checkbox"/> Require development and maintenance
Boat landing	<input type="checkbox"/> Provides recreational opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires suitable location
Trails	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide recreational opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Promote physical fitness <input type="checkbox"/> Promote tourism <input type="checkbox"/> Enhance property values	<input type="checkbox"/> Require development and maintenance <input type="checkbox"/> Require contiguous space
Council rings	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide meeting place for groups	<input type="checkbox"/> Require development
Camp sites	<input type="checkbox"/> Promote tourism	<input type="checkbox"/> Limit revenue

## Pros and Cons of Open Space Uses

### Agricultural

Use	Pros	Cons
Pasture	<input type="checkbox"/> Produces revenue for non-tax-exempt parcels	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires proper zoning <input type="checkbox"/> Requires contiguous space
Cultivation	<input type="checkbox"/> Produces revenue for non-tax-exempt parcels	<input type="checkbox"/> Requires contiguous space <input type="checkbox"/> Increases soil erosion
Alternative crops	<input type="checkbox"/> Produce revenue for non-tax-exempt parcels <input type="checkbox"/> Provide research opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Require contiguous space
Community Gardens	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide opportunities for citizens to have vegetable and flower gardens	

### Public Facilities

Use	Pros	Cons
Unimproved public parking lots	<input type="checkbox"/> Provide parking space	
Scenic overlooks	<input type="checkbox"/> Promote tourism	

This page intentionally left blank.